

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 22, 1999

To: WWS Country Contacts, Africa Region and Morocco

From: Maureen Wilson-Jarrard, Education Technology Specialist
Project Team Leader

Subject: WWS On-line Project: "Connecting Peace Corps Volunteers to Educators for Global Education" (CPC/EGE)

I. The CPC/EGE Project

In May 1999, World Wise Schools (WWS) was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to develop an on-line learning module and create a community of learners. The focus of the learning module is how water is used in daily life in the countries of Africa where Volunteers serve. Currently serving PCVs will provide the original sources that are the life of the project.

II. Point of Contact (POC)

We hope that you, the WWS Country Contact, will act as the POC for this project. We anticipate your responsibilities to be:

- distribute the WET kits to ten PCVs;
- collect the completed WET kits (anecdotal comments, photo logs, release forms, and exposed film) from the Volunteers;
- ascertain that both the canister and the film container are labeled;
- mail the completed kits back to WWS by the most expedient method.

In addition, we hope that the POC will be in charge of the videotape that we are sending: to oversee the filming and to return the completed cassette to us.

While we can't be sure that all Posts have video equipment, we are gambling on the possibility of a VHS camera being available. We hope you will be able to capture scenes of the capital city and surrounding areas. This is a wonderful opportunity to show Volunteers and staff at work in the urban areas of Africa, and the culture of the city, including housing, shopping, entertainment, business and transportation. Our aim is to make short video clips available on the internet.

III. Collecting Written Comments, Photos and Video in Africa

The ideal PCVs to receive these WET kits are those who have a strong interest in this project and are willing to help fulfill the Third Goal by assisting teachers in the United States. In addition, the PCVs should be:

- able to provide accurate information on Africa
- able to clearly communicate their experiences in writing;
- familiar with photography;
- represent urban as well as rural settings;

At least four of these Volunteers should have primary or secondary assignments that are in some way related to water, i.e., environment, agriculture, water sanitation and health and nutrition.

WWS is well aware that this project cannot be completed without the cooperation and assistance of Peace Corps Volunteers and staff. We have taken steps to make the request for contributions from overseas simple to distribute and the results easy to collect. We have provided everything that we think might be necessary to obtain good photos and educational anecdotes. Furthermore, we will pay for the cost of mailing the completed Water Experience Team (WET) kits back to Peace Corps Headquarters.

Each WET kit contains:

- ✓ A letter explaining the project and the PCV's role in it
- ✓ Tips for taking good photos
- ✓ A roll of 35 mm 36 exposure film to take pictures involving water
- ✓ A blank photo log
- ✓ A set of writing prompts with space to record experiences with water
- ✓ A "Connecting PCVs to Educators" ball point pen
- ✓ A sample of how to complete the writing prompts
- ✓ A blank release form allowing WWS to use the photos and anecdotal data
- ✓ Labels for the film canister and roll

IV. Deadlines

The CPC/EGE project has quarterly deadlines, so we need to start receiving the completed WET kits as soon as possible. Please **do not wait** until all of them have been collected to begin returning them. We will be using the information they contain on an ongoing basis, and hope to have the **first returns in our office by September 15, and all the WET kits returned by November 15**. We realize that these deadlines may be too ambitious, but we're hoping for the best. Just keep sending the WET kits back to us as they are returned to you. After the video and all the film have been returned to WWS, please let me know the cost of the mailings. Money from the grant funds will be transferred to the Post's account to cover that cost.

Although I have tried to anticipate as much as possible, I'm sure there will be concerns that I have not imagined. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time regarding this project. I am available at mjarrard@peacecorps.gov and at phone (202) 692-1468.

And finally, thank you for your cooperation and participation in this important endeavor. Your partnership in this Third Goal project is key to its success. You will be giving U.S. teachers and students the opportunity to learn about the work of Volunteers, the cultures on the African continent, and daily issues that concern people. You will be making the phrase "bring the world home" a reality.